

ABSTRACT

Progressive licensing of component-based MES software

The invention relates to a system (1), a method, and a standard framework (11) for usage-dependent licensing. When use is made of additional functionality, further instances, or specific adapters (13_{1..n}), the system (1) will detect whether such use has been authorized by means of a license. If authorization has not yet taken place, a time-limited license will be generated automatically and the manufacturer (21) of the standard framework (11) or, as the case may be, a user (22p) who has implemented additional functionality on the basis of the framework will be informed and can generate a license key. The system (1) will disable the functionality after a specific period of time if a license fee is not paid by a user (22p, 22s).

FIG 3